

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 11:00 a.m., on Thursday, March 24, 2016.

### Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 16 public bills, H.R. 4825–4840; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 657–659 were introduced. **Page H1552**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1553–54**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bost to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1497**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1505**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rabbi John Linder, Temple Solel, Paradise Valley, Arizona. **Page H1505**

**Standard Merger and Acquisition Reviews Through Equal Rules Act—Rule for consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 653, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2745) to amend the Clayton Act and the Federal Trade Commission Act to provide that the Federal Trade Commission shall exercise authority with respect to mergers only under the Clayton Act and only in the same procedural manner as the Attorney General exercises such authority, and providing for proceedings during the period from March 24, 2016, through April 11, 2016, by a recorded vote of 233 yeas to 154 noes, Roll No. 132, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 231 yeas to 154 nays, Roll No. 131. **Pages H1509–13, H1532–33**

**Moment of silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks in Brussels. **Page H1532**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Promoting Women in Entrepreneurship Act:** H.R. 4742, to authorize the National Science Foundation to support entrepreneurial programs for women, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 383 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 133; **Pages H1514–16, H1533–34**

**Inspiring the Next Space Pioneers, Innovators, Researchers, and Explorers (INSPIRE) Women Act:** H.R. 4755, to inspire women to enter the aerospace field, including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, through mentorship and outreach, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote 380 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 134; **Pages H1516–18, H1534**

**Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2016:** H.R. 482, amended, to redesignate Ocmulgee National Monument in the State of Georgia and revise its boundary; **Pages H1518–22**

**Facilitating the addition of park administration at the Coltsville National Historical Park:** H.R. 2857, amended, to facilitate the addition of park administration at the Coltsville National Historical Park; **Pages H1522–23**

**Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act of 2016:** H.R. 4119, amended, to authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars; **Pages H1523–24**

**Modernizing the Interstate Placement of Children in Foster Care Act:** H.R. 4472, amended, to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to require

States to adopt a centralized electronic system to help expedite the placement of children in foster care or guardianship, or for adoption, across State lines, and to provide grants to aid States in developing such a system; and

Pages H1524–28

**Women Airforce Service Pilot Arlington Inurnment Restoration Act:** H.R. 4336, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the burial of the cremated remains of persons who served as Women's Air Forces Service Pilots in Arlington National Cemetery, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 385 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 135.

Pages H1528–31, H1534–35

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the burial in Arlington National Cemetery of the cremated remains of certain persons whose service has been determined to be active service."

Page H1535

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 23.

Page H1535

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four yeas-and-nays votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1532, H1532–33, H1533, H1534, and H1534–35. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### APPROPRIATIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency. Testimony was heard from Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; and David Bloom, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense held a budget hearing on the Defense Health Program. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Raquel C. Bono, Director, Defense Health Agency; Lieutenant General Nadja West, Surgeon General, U.S. Army; Vice Admiral Clinton F. Faison, III, Surgeon General, U.S. Navy; and Lieutenant General Mark A. Ediger, Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a budget hearing on the Department of Education. Testimony was heard from John King, Secretary, Department of Education.

### APPROPRIATIONS—SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a budget hearing on the Securities and Exchange Commission. Testimony was heard from Mary Jo White, Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission.

### APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense held a budget hearing on the National Guard and Reserve. Testimony was heard from General Frank J. Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Major General Timothy Kadavy, Director, Army National Guard; Major General Brian Neal, Acting Director, Air National Guard; and Lieutenant General Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, Army Reserve.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Drug Enforcement Administration. Testimony was heard from Chuck Rosenberg, Acting Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration.

### THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The Fiscal Year 2017 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of Defense". Testimony was heard from Ashton B. Carter, Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Mike McCord, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense.

### LOGISTICS AND SEALIFT FORCE REQUIREMENTS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing entitled "Logistics and Sealift Force Requirements". Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Stephen Lyons, USA, Deputy Commander, Transportation

Command; Paul N. Jaenichen, Sr., Maritime Administrator, Maritime Administration; and F. Scott DiLisio, Director, Strategic Mobility/Combat Logistics Division, Chief of Naval Operations.

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2017 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER PROGRAMS: FOUNDATIONS FOR A SECURE WARFIGHTING NETWORK**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2017 Information Technology and Cyber Programs: Foundations for a Secure Warfighting Network”. Testimony was heard from Terry Halvorsen, Chief Information Officer, Department of Defense; and Peter Levine, Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense.

#### **STRENGTHENING EDUCATION RESEARCH AND PRIVACY PROTECTIONS TO BETTER SERVE STUDENTS**

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Education Research and Privacy Protections to Better Serve Students”. Testimony was heard from Robert Swiggum, Deputy Superintendent of Technology Services, Georgia Department of Education; and public witnesses.

#### **OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission”. Testimony was heard from Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; Ajit Pai, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; and Tom Wheeler, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2017 EPA BUDGET**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy and Power; and Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, held a joint hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2017 EPA Budget”. Testimony was heard from Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

#### **THE ANNUAL TESTIMONY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY ON THE STATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Annual Testimony of the

Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System”. Testimony was heard from Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

#### **THE FUTURE OF HOUSING IN AMERICA: GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND THE HIGH COST OF HOUSING**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance held a hearing entitled “The Future of Housing in America: Government Regulations and the High Cost of Housing”. Testimony was heard from Vicki Been, Commissioner, New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; and public witnesses.

#### **WOMEN FIGHTING FOR PEACE: LESSONS FOR TODAY’S CONFLICTS**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Women Fighting for Peace: Lessons for Today’s Conflicts”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **POTENTIAL TERRORIST THREATS: BORDER SECURITY CHALLENGES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “Potential Terrorist Threats: Border Security Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean”. Testimony was heard from Juan Gonzalez, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; Alan D. Bersin, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Chief Diplomatic Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and Lev Kubiak, Assistant Director for International Operations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security.

#### **GET IT RIGHT THIS TIME: A VICTIMS-CENTERED TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “Get It Right This Time: A Victims-Centered Trafficking in Persons Report”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **HEZBOLLAH’S GROWING THREAT AGAINST U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled “Hezbollah’s Growing Threat Against U.S. National Security Interests in the Middle East”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**THE ROLE OF CYBER INSURANCE IN RISK MANAGEMENT**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies held a hearing entitled “The Role of Cyber Insurance in Risk Management”. Testimony was heard from Adam W. Hamm, Commissioner, North Dakota Insurance Commissioner; and public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4771, the “Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act of 2016”; and H.R. 4676, the “Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act of 2016”. H.R. 4676 and H.R. 4771 were considered. Neither were reported out of committee.

**EXAMINING THE SPENDING PRIORITIES AND MISSIONS OF THE FOREST SERVICE IN THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET PROPOSAL**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the Forest Service in the President’s Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Proposal”. Testimony was heard from Thomas Tidwell, Chief, U.S. Forest Service.

**THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDING PRIORITIES AND IMPACTS ON INDIAN COUNTRY AND INSULAR AREAS**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2017 Funding Priorities and Impacts on Indian Country and Insular Areas”. Testimony was heard from Lawrence Roberts, Acting Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Esther Kia’aina, Assistant Secretary, Insular Areas, Department of the Interior; Vincent G. Logan, Special Trustee, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior; and Mary Smith, Principal Deputy Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

**EXAMINING THE MISSIONS AND IMPACTS OF THE PRESIDENT’S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGETS OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, THE NATIONAL OCEAN AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND THE POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans held a hearing entitled

“Examining the Missions and Impacts of the President’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budgets of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Power Marketing Administrations”. Testimony was heard from Jim Kurth, Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; Estevan López, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; Mark Gabriel, Administrator, Western Area Power Administration, Colorado; Claudia Andrews, Chief Operating Officer, Bonneville Power Administration, Oregon; and Eileen Sobock, Assistant Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**AMERICA’S HEROIN AND OPIOID ABUSE EPIDEMIC**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “America’s Heroin and Opioid Abuse Epidemic”. Testimony was heard from Michael Botticelli, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Lou Milione, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; Kana Enomoto, Acting Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health Services; Leana S. Wen, M.D., Health Commissioner, Baltimore City Health Department; and Teresa Jacobs, Mayor of Orange County, Florida.

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN ADVANCING HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Information Technology; and Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules, held a joint hearing entitled “Opportunities and Challenges in Advancing Health Information Technology”. Testimony was heard from Karen DeSalvo, M.D., National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Department of Health and Human Services; Jessica Rich, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; and public witnesses.

**AN OVERVIEW OF THE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the Budget Proposal for the Department of Energy for Fiscal Year 2017”. Testimony was heard from Ernest Moniz, Secretary, Department of Energy.

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the Budget Proposal for the National Science Foundation for Fiscal Year 2017”. Testimony was heard from France Córdova, Director, National Science Foundation; and Dan E. Arvizu, Chairman, National Science Board.

## LIP SERVICE BUT LITTLE ELSE: FAILURE OF THE SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH INSURANCE TAX CREDIT

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access held a hearing entitled “Lip Service but Little Else: Failure of the Small Business Health Insurance Tax Credit”. Testimony was heard from James R. McTigue, Jr., Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

## CHOICE CONSOLIDATION: LEVERAGING PROVIDER NETWORKS TO INCREASE VETERAN ACCESS

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Choice Consolidation: Leveraging Provider Networks to Increase Veteran Access”. Testimony was heard from Baligh Yehia, M.D., Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Community Care, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

## SOCIAL SECURITY AND PUBLIC SERVANTS: ENSURING EQUAL TREATMENT

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled “Social Security and Public Servants: Ensuring Equal Treatment”. Testimony was heard from Samara Richardson, Acting Associate Commissioner, Office of Income Security Programs, Social Security Administration; Stephen C. Goss, Chief Actuary, Office of the Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration; and public witnesses.

## MEMBER PROPOSALS RELATING TO FUNDAMENTAL REFORM OF THE INCOME TAX SYSTEM

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Tax Policy held a hearing on Member proposals relating to fundamental reform of the income tax system. Testimony was heard from Chairman Nunes and Representatives Burgess and Woodall.

## NRO/NGA FY 2017 BUDGET

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture held a hearing on NRO/NGA FY 2017 budget. This hearing was closed.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, markup on Appropriations Bill, FY 2017, 9 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Smithsonian Institution, 10 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, budget hearing on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Update on the F–35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Program and the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Request”, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Administration’s Plan to Close the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility: At What Foreign Policy and National Security Cost?”, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4482, the “Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016”; H.R. 4509, the “State and High-Risk Urban Area Working Group Act”; H.R. 4549, the “Treating Small Airports with Fairness Act of 2016”; H.R. 4698, the “Securing Aviation from Foreign Entry Points and Guarding Airports Through Enhanced Security Act of 2016”; H.R. 4780, the “Department of Homeland Security Strategy for International Programs Act”; H.R. 4785, the “DHS Stop Asset and Vehicle Excess Act”; and H.R. 4820, the “Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act of 2016”, 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “Effect of the President’s FY 2017 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Office of Surface Mining on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy Production, State Programs and Deficit Reduction”, 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on the Interior, hearing entitled “Examining the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Leasing”, 9 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “National Security: Threats at Our Borders”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Examining EPA’s Regional Haze Program: Regulations Without Visible Benefits”, 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4783, the “Commercializing on Small Business Innovation Act of 2016”; and H.R. 207, the “Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2015”, 9:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

11 a.m., Thursday, March 24

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Wednesday, March 23

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of H.R. 2745—Standard Merger and Acquisition Reviews Through Equal Rules Act.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Adams, Alma S., N.C., E355  
 Blumenauer, Earl, Ore., E363  
 Calvert, Ken, Calif., E360  
 Cartwright, Matt, Pa., E358  
 Clarke, Yvette D., N.Y., E357  
 Clay, Wm. Lacy, Mo., E357  
 Coffman, Mike, Colo., E360  
 Comstock, Barbara, Va., E358  
 Costello, Ryan A., Pa., E355  
 Dent, Charles W., Pa., E359

Duckworth, Tammy, Ill., E363  
 Farr, Sam, Calif., E361  
 Foster, Bill, Ill., E361  
 Graves, Sam, Mo., E362  
 Guinta, Frank C., N.H., E357  
 Heck, Joseph J., Nev., E359  
 Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E363  
 Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E358  
 Levin, Sander M., Mich., E362  
 Marino, Tom, Pa., E356  
 McClintock, Tom, Calif., E355  
 Meadows, Mark, N.C., E355

Meehan, Patrick, Pa., E355  
 Poe, Ted, Tex., E361  
 Rothfus, Keith J., Pa., E356  
 Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E356  
 Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E357  
 Smith, Lamar, Tex., E361  
 Thompson, Mike, Calif., E358, E359, E359, E360, E360,  
 E361, E362, E362, E363, E363  
 Walden, Greg, Ore., E356  
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E359  
 Young, Todd C., Ind., E360



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